

Aims

To outline our approach to buying school uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers

To explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

To clarify our expectations for school uniform

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mr Lee (Headteacher), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

Limiting the cost of school uniform

The Merton School has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory **guidance** from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We aim to make sure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides value for money

We will do this by:

- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible for example, by only asking that the jumper / cardigan, worn over the school t-shirt, features the school logo
- Avoiding specific requirements about what pupils could wear on non-school days
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniforms for different year groups and extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents/ phasing in changes on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

Our School's Uniform

* Summer months

Uniform Item	Guidance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White polo shirt 	<p>Phasing out blue Polo Shirts (2022-23). Please buy white when purchasing new polo shirts</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red or navy fleece with school logo 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Sweatshirt / Jumper or Cardigan with our school logo 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black or grey skirt Red checked dress Black or grey trousers Black or grey shorts* 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensible Footwear, we recommend: plain black flat or low heel shoes or plain black trainers. Sun hat* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No strapless sandals, high heels or wellington boots
<p><u>PE Kit (Children wear their PE kit on class PE days)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A plain white round neck t-shirt A pair of black shorts or leggings or jogging bottoms Trainers Navy or Black Tracksuit Long hair should be worn up in a ponytail Earrings must be covered or removed on PE days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only sports items with small discreet logos are permitted Football kits are not permitted

Where to purchase uniform

We have two suppliers who are able to provide branded uniform. Firstly, via **'School Trend's'** where orders can be placed and paid for online directly from School via the following link: <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/TheMertonPrimaryschool> There are no minimum order quantities and your uniform will be delivered directly to your chosen address. Alternatively, orders can be made from **Fusion School and Workwear**. Fusion School and Workwear can be contacted by telephone 07754 761835 or by email fusionschoolandworkwear@gmail.com .

Book Bags, PE Bags and used uniform

These are available to buy from the school office. Used uniform is for sale at very low prices and enquiries are encouraged via the school office.

Expectations for our school community

Children are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while: on the school premises, Travelling to and from school and at out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is: clear , clearly labelled with the child's name and in good condition

Parents and carers are asked to contact Mr Lee if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to: Their child's protected characteristics or the cost of uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy